

Newsletter 2, November 2013

Piloting quality and innovation



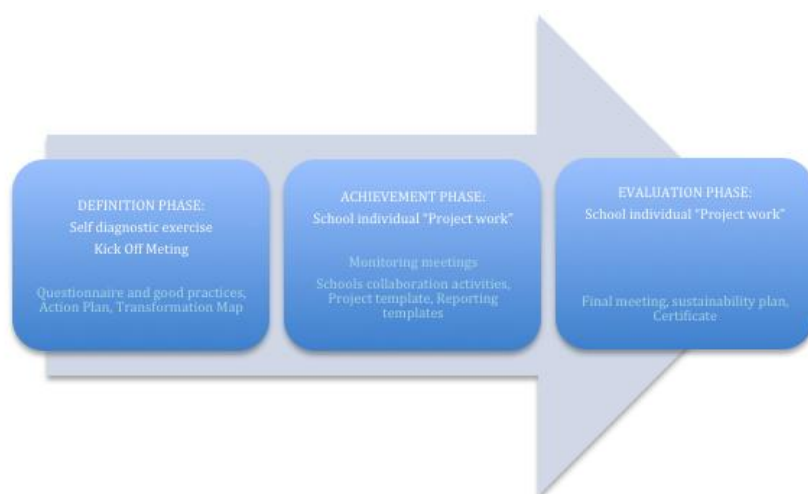
The Q4I project pilot experiences will be launched in January 2014.

The Q4I project, which started in December 2012, aims to develop, test and mainstream a quality development approach for schools that includes a strong commitment to innovation and that is based on the participation of all key stakeholders: students, teachers and parents, employers and representatives of local community. Q4I is a project designed to ensure high quality education while innovating educational practices. Using the innovative Q4I processes will lead to higher quality standards and the ability to adapt to constant changes.

From January 2014, the Q4I consortium will be working with twenty-five schools from five countries (Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Romania, and Spain), piloting its approach and offering a process of 'supported' piloting, for a period of 6 months. During that period the school staff will become familiar with the quality management tools and establish the processes that will ensure a continuous improvement of the quality of education.

The piloting will be structured in three phases:

1. Definition phase, in which schools are assisted to define their final goals.
2. Achievement phase, the core part of the initiative. The school will have access to the network and to the experts that will follow-up and sustain the actual steps necessary to achieve the defined objectives in terms of quality and innovation.
3. Evaluation phase, useful to verify and prove progresses.



Partners

- Generalitat Valenciana (Spain)
- MENON (Belgium)
- EFQUEL (Belgium)
- ESHA (Netherlands)
- mt (Spain)
- Scierter (Italy)
- FiaTest (Romania)
- EURIDIT (Belgium)



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Programme of the European
Commission

Join the pilot!

The Q4I pilot is open to new schools. To apply, please contact our national partner as soon as possible, the start is planned for the school year 2013/2014. The national partners are:

Greece: contact HAEd

nikos.zygouritsas@menon.org.gr

Italy: contact Euridit, info@euridit.eu

The Netherlands: contact ESHA

fredverboon@gmail.com

Romania: contact Fiatest

proiecte@fiatest.ro

Spain: contact GVA: q4i@gva.es

The Q4I pilot phases

Definition phase: Self-Assessment, defining goals and improvements. The project starts with a first meeting necessary to illustrate all the aspects of the process. The initial support is directed to a raise in awareness of school attitude toward quality and innovation through a self-assessment procedure. This exercise will reveal strengths, weaknesses, critical situations and opportunities, all of them essential to make a good use of existing skills and decide which the priority objectives are. The first direct contribute will be the proposal of possible quality and innovation objectives, also on the basis of a review of the most interesting cases included in the study Q4I carried out in ten European countries. The research was intended to identify excellence in innovation with the best results in terms of quality. The review will help the school to clarify its own expectations, defining the areas to be improved. Q4I will share the expertise of all partners in order to fine tune the existing models and define their own path during the trial in order to develop all concrete desired and agreed goals in the school context. At the end of the meeting, all the aspects of the process of piloting, explained in details, will be converted into a shared dynamic, so to be fully exploited within a 'learning community'.

Achievement phase: Sharing experiences and support to innovative processes. Learning from each other is a core principle of innovation in the school systems and Q4I fosters collaboration among the participants and promotes the visibility of this initiative to ground the diffusion of productive connections. Raising awareness in the use of ICT as a learning support paves the way for innovative uses suitable to increase the quality of contents and to create a shared database of valuable experiences. All the participating schools will be connected to the same network, representing the starts of the Q4I Schools Network. We are committed to promote the Network, providing experts' opinions and collaborating with representatives of local, national and European organisations related to innovation processes in schools. Communication and collaboration with colleagues that experienced changes with good results, with experts all over Europe and any other person involved will be the best guarantee of success in quality and innovation.

Evaluation phase: appreciating achievements. In the final phase of the experimentation we expect the schools to be ready to continue to develop within the international network established, being capable to feed it with content and find inspiration in the exchange of experiences in national context and in collaboration with schools of different countries. It will also be important for the school to evaluate the achievements and verify the degree of concordance with the expected outcomes. A feedback from the school on the quality and effectiveness of the support received during the piloting will help the Q4I team to improve these components of the Q4I initiative in the future. The value of the experience in all its aspects will be monitored to demonstrate its effectiveness and sustainability.



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www.q4i-schools.eu